(b) and (c) Based on the announcement made by innovator, Merck USA, on withdrawal of Rofecoxib worldwide on 30th September, 2004, following clinical trial results, which showed an increase risk of confirmed serious events (including myocardial infraction and stroke) compared to placebo, following long-term use, and based on available published literature, expert group in India recommended withdrawal of Rofecoxib formulations.

(d) The names of the major companies who were manufacturing this medicine are: M/s. Ranbaxy Lab., Unichem, Lupin, Torrent Pharma, Sun Pharma, Micro Lab., Dr. Reddy's Lab. etc.

(e) and (f) Notification with regard to ban of Rofecoxib formulations under section 26A of Drug and Cosmetic Act is under process. Only after publication of said notification the drug stands banned. In the meanwhile a Press Note has been issued to widely publicize this.

Changes in the Mental Health Policy

276. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seriously thinking of bringing drastic changes in the Mental Health Policy of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) machinery created for implementation of the above policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to change the present strategy which is to diagnose the mentally ill patients at the early stage and treat them through the general health delivery system.

Drinking water facility at hospitals in Delhi

277. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hospitals in Delhi do not have proper drinking water facility;